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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from MagdeburgEVALUATION 25X1PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 27 August to 20 September 1953DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 9 October 1953REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS (to Army)

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1. On 8 September 1953, the Hindenburg Kaserne in Magdeburg was occupied by about 1,700 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and by between 350 and 400 soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. All quarters were lighted at dusk. At about 8 a.m. on 5 September, a column of trucks driven by soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets . Each truck carried 20 to 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. At about 10 a.m., driving school trucks each occupied by five students wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia left the installation. At about 9 a.m., 4 trucks carrying fuel barrels entered the installation. About 240 soldiers were at field training east of the barracks installation on 7 September.

2. On 2 September, the Encke Kaserne was occupied by personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets. A large number of officers entered and left the installation during the period from 27 August to 2 September. Soldiers received basic training at the drill grounds. Motor vehicles seen at the installation

3. On 2 September, the Seeckt Kaserne and Nachrichten Kaserne were occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and signal insignia including some who wore blue-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. Soldiers were engaged in drill in the barracks yard during the period under review. About 9 soldiers left the installation toward the meadows near Biederitzer Busch for field training on 31 August. Nine trucks occupied by personnel carrying field pack left the installation toward Berliner Chaussee at about 1 p.m. on 31 August.

4. On 11 September, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied about 70 percent by about 700 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. Motor vehicles observed at the installation

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5. On 11 September, the Seeckt Kaserne was occupied by a guard detail of 80 to 100 soldiers. There was no motor traffic.
6. On 11 September, the former ammunition depot in Gerwisch stored ammunition and replacement parts. A resident stated that the quarters were occupied by a large guard detail. The installation was guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets.
7. On 18 September, the Encke Kaserne was occupied to capacity. A large number of officers daily entered the installation at the main gate during the period from 15 to 18 September.

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8. On 18 September, the Zuckerbusch Kaserne was occupied by about 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with medical insignia. No training was observed.
9. On 18 September, the Seeckt Kaserne was occupied by only a rear detail. There was almost no activity at the installation.
10. On 18 September, the Nachrichten Kaserne quartered only a rear detail. The barracks buildings were renovated.
11. On 18 September, the Flak Kaserne was occupied by about 700 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Four 76-mm AA guns were emplaced east of the athletic grounds. About 45 soldiers received training on 4 x 37-mm AA guns in the barracks yard on 16 September.

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12. On 18 September, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied by about 700 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.
13. On 18 September, the Anger Kaserne was occupied by about 400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and olive epaulets with medical insignia. On 18 September, 6 T-34 tanks were seen in front of the garages in the quartering area while 30 trucks were in the western section of the installation. Motor vehicles entering and leaving the installation

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14. On 14 September, only the east section of the Herrenkrug Kaserne seemed to be occupied. There was no training activity. Eight tank cars were observed under a lean-to roof in the area east of the barracks installation. Between 25 and 30 gasoline barrels were placed nearby.

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15. On 9 September, [] the Nachrichten Kaserne, the Seeckt Kaserne and the Zuckerbusch Kaserne were only lightly occupied.
16. On 14 September, the AAA emplacement beside the northern railroad bridge was still occupied by six light AA guns.¹
17. On 16 September, personnel detained at the Magdeburg railroad station included about 150 soldiers who came from the direction of Erfurt and were scheduled for the Nachrichten Kaserne and about 200 soldiers for the Herrenkrug Kaserne who came from the direction of Frankfurt/Oder.²
18. []
19. On 12 September, 4 x 37-mm AA guns were emplaced about 200 meters east of the Elbebruecke just south of the Magdeburg-Berlin railroad line. The emplacement was occupied by about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. One low-wooden building dug into the earth about 30 meters from the emplacement and three low-wooden buildings including two serving as quarters and one serving for supply purposes which were located on the other side of the bridge on the western bank of the Elbe River seemed to house 50 KVP soldiers who, [] believed furnished the sentries for the bridge. Two or 3 boats of the water police were constantly observed on the Elbe River downstream from the low-wooden buildings.¹
- [] Comment. In early August, the barracks installations in Magdeburg were reported [] as similarly occupied. []
- On 11 September, the Hindenburg Kaserne was probably occupied by strong elements of the 105th Signal Regt of the Third Shock Army and by motor transport units of the Army and/or the 19th Gds Mecz Div. Since, according to congruent information, the Nachrichten Kaserne and the Seeckt Kaserne were occupied by only small rear details, source of paragraph 3 of the present report probably saw training activity of rear details. The information confirms that the Herrenkrug-Anger Kaserne is partially occupied, until 18 September, probably by units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div. []
- The AAA emplacement east of the northern railroad bridge is known from previous information.
2. [] Comment. Possibly recruits arriving from the USSR. Similar information on minor contingents of recruits who arrived was received from a number of posts in East Germany. According to the barracks installations mentioned, the soldiers probably were replacements for the 19th Gds Mecz Div.
3. [] Comment. [] confirms the 99th Gds How Arty Regt of the 19th Gds Mecz Div until 1 September 1953. The regiment was previously carried in Hillersleben. [] belongs to the headquarters of the 19th Gds Mecz Div in Magdeburg.

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